

# MATWATCH

213 Pine Hills Ave. Auburn AL 36830

OCTOBER 23-29, 1989

VOL. 2, NO. 18

## SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP LOSES TV SLOTS IN HOSTILE TAKEOVER BID; GEORGIA ALL-STAR GROUP BEGINS

ATLANTA----Sources from around the Southeast have told MATWATCH Southern Championship Wrestling, in business since late 1987, has lost its television slots in a takeover by a group of former SCW regulars and former SCW TV producer/director Larry Oldag. The new group, Georgia All-Star Wrestling, Inc., is headed by Oldag and will be booked by SCW babyface Jim Powell, a former Nightmare tag team member.

SCW co-owner Jerry Blackwell was told by Oldag of the takeover last Monday. Blackwell, recovering from an illness, is said to be as much as 60 days behind in TV production payments to Oldag. The blowup had brewed since July, when MATWATCH reported on discontent within SCW.

Blackwell is not abandoning his promotion yet. He had a card scheduled Sunday at the Auction Barn in Alpharetta, Ga., where much of his TV was taped. Sources say Blackwell claims he

has held up his financial obligations but charges co-owner David Stiles of North Carolina has not.

The new GEORGIA ALL-STAR WRESTLING premiered Saturday night in Atlanta on WVEU-TV's SUPERSTARS OF WRESTLING block and will apparently supplant SCW in syndication. On the show (see TV TEMPO), hurriedly taped the previous Sunday, were former SCW stars David Sammartino, Randy Rose, Powell, Nightmare Ted Allen, Mr. Atlanta and former NWA standout Brad Armstrong. Another two weeks of TV was taped Sunday in Griffin, Ga.

No word was available at deadline on who would appear with Blackwell in Alpharetta, though Auction Barn owner and figurehead SCW president Gordon Clements, at one point, reported siding with the Oldag camp, is now supporting Blackwell. Bobby Fulton, a former member of The Fantastics tag team, is booking for Blackwell but it appears unlikely a new over-the-air TV slot in the key Atlanta market will be found for Blackwell.

The situation drastically differs from the winter of 1988 when SCW, which featured at one time or another Kimala, Abdullah the Butcher, Chris Adams, Dick Slater, Bob Orton Jr., Paul E. Dangerously, Terry Gordy, Michael Hayes, Austin Idol, Tommy Rich, Jerry Lawler, Manny Fernandez, Eddie Gilbert and the late Bruiser Brody, was considered the hottest independent promotion in the USA and regularly sold out country music bar/restaurant Miss Kitty's in Marietta.

But after the death of Brody in July 1988 and an unsuccessful stint by Buck Robley as booker, coupled with the loss of Dangerously---a catalyst heel in the early going---and later departures by top announcers Rick Stewart and



Joe Pedicino, SCW deteriorated into a small-town promotion which featured rookies, Atlanta-area performers and went through a sea of untrained television announcers.

The promotion also lost key TV slots in Macon, Columbus and an out-of-state airing in Paducah, Ky. Blackwell also had his attention distracted during the tragic illness and death of his son and a successive bout with pneumonia and gout, one siege which left him near death before a dramatic recovery earlier this year.

Southern originally had been planned to be a satellite promotion for the AWA when Blackwell left Verne Gagne's group in the summer of 1987. But he steered it toward true independent status, except for a September 1988 show in which Jerry Lawler defended his then-AWA world title against Rich in Marietta in a show which drew more than \$20,000, Blackwell's largest-ever house crowd.

One source close to the situation said: "It's a shame for Jerry. But he'd been warned for months about paying the TV bills. I just don't see how he's going to keep it going with no TV."

More than anything else, the situation keynotes the growing financial plight for indies across the nation---a dilemma which has also apparently claimed Nelson Royal's ATLANTIC COAST promotion and has forced Wayne Coulter's PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING from FLORIDA to seek a public stock offering for fresh capital.



**Steve  
Beverly**

## THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

### ANOTHER PAY WRESTLING SHOW ENTERS DECEMBER MARKET

LOS ANGELES --- A third pay-per-view professional wrestling show has joined the competition for cable viewers during the month of December.

A group calling itself Women's Wrestling Championship (WWC) has nailed down pay dates Dec. 22 and 23, the latter a replay. Cable operators across the nation received advertising information in the last week.

Promotional ads proclaim, "You've seen the men---now meet the women." Apparently, the group plans mud and cage matches in its program, which has a list price of \$9.95.

Among the performers billed are Laughing Lisa, the Doberman Sisters and Herculette.

### SHOWTIME NAILS "STONES" PPV RIGHTS FROM TRUMP, TITAN

NEW YORK --- Cable network SHOWTIME has won the rights to the December Rolling Stones pay-per-view concert.

No rights fee has been published but the programming service outbid Titan Sports, which had lobbied heavily for the event in an effort to expand its pay-cable production.

Trump Sports and Entertainment, which at one time had united with Titan in an effort to land the show, also failed in a last-ditch bid for the concert.

### KOKO B. WARE FIRED FROM WWF AFTER SKIRMISH WITH TITAN EXEC

STAMFORD CT --- Veteran wrestler Koko B. Ware has reportedly been fired from the World Wrestling Federation after a reported physical skirmish with a Titan Sports Executive.

Sources say Ware, already in the Titan doghouse over a pending incident last month in Iowa, participated in a fistfight with Titan vice president Jim Troy on the WWF European tour.

If the firing stands, it marks the second straight year Titan has dumped competitors on the European swing. In 1988, Don Muraco and Junkyard Dog were dumped overseas.

for MATWATCH. Please leave a message on the answering machine if you have pertinent information. Please remember, as well, that we cannot return every call for budgetary reasons. Also, please do not call before 10 a.m. Eastern time or after 12 Midnight Eastern unless otherwise authorized. This is not my primary job and I hope you will understand my need for rest. My wife and I both have mandatory early wakeups, so your courtesy is appreciated.

## PINFALL PROFILE

A sick irony would be to see a spot on WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING next Saturday with Sting, Ric Flair, Terry Funk and Lex Luger moving in reverse motion, all saying, "IT'S GOOOOING."

I have no doubt HALLOWEEN HAVOC will be a glitzy, stylishly-produced three hours of pay television. Unless it finally hits the string where everything goes wrong, TBS has proved it can present the most entertaining pay-cablecasts in the industry, even if its performers do not have the mainline national recognition of the WWF.

But as you know, I always forecast on the conservative side on buy-rates for the megashows. This time, it's going to be considered ultra-conservative---perhaps a lack of confidence. But I honestly believe there is great danger this show could draw subscribers in the depth level of SUPER CLASH '88, that AWA/WORLD CLASS/WHOMEVER WOULD COME show of last December.

I see three things going against this show other NWA pay efforts have not had: 1) I see Saturday night as an unwise choice. Younger viewers who have a choice of an evening out or paying \$14.95 for a cage match are likely to choose the evening out. Plus, the viewers are asked to choose between the live showing and what has been a highly-rated series of ESPN college football games and don't tell me there is no overlap of those audiences. Plus, there's the threat of an extended World Series opposite.

2) I honestly believe this is one pay show too many. This should have been the time to start building STARRCADE as THE NWA supercard. But this October effort clutters the fall pay lineups to a point of suffocation.

3) Other than the main event, the other matches have not been graphically presented on the weekly NWA TV shows. Unlike the WWF, which specifically runs down its pay show cards in brilliant graphics, the NWA plugs have mostly been verbal, making it harder to zero in on who's wrestling. Additionally, the view from here is that Flair

(Continued on Page 5)

826-RING

Effective Tuesday, October 24, this is the new number



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SCALE: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM- Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor.

(GA. ALL-STAR) - [DEBUT]: Jim Powell double DQ vs. Nightmare Ted Allen; Randy Rose turning heel) d. Tony Edwards; Invader d. Ricky Little Bear; David Sammartino d. Billy Starr by DQ; Brad Armstrong d. Mr. Atlanta by DQ. BOMB-PLUS.



(USWA) - Gary Young d. J.J. Funk; Headhunter d. Jimmy James; Chris Adams d. P.Y. Chu'i; INTERVIEW: Jerry Lawler runs down Texans. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(CWA) - Freddy/Dream Warrior d. Wildside by DQ; Blackbirds d. Kelly Brothers; Buddy Landell/Tony Anthony d. Steele/Big O; HANDICAP: Soultaker d. Tom Hall/Chris Frazier; 6-MAN: Lawler/Freddy/Dustin Rhodes d. Spike Huber/Mike Davis/Kevin Dillinger. DRAW.

(CWF) - Southern Boys d. The Panther/Bill Ford; Dennis Condrey d. The Avenger; SEGMENT: Wendell Cooley accepts Condrey's \$1,000 challenge; VIDEO: Cactus Jack Manson; Manson d. Curt Allen; Brian Lee/Jimmy Golden d. Jerry Stubbs/Johnny Gilbert; Mark Goleen (Beast) d. Todd Morton by DQ when Adrian Street saves from beating. RESTHOLD.

(WWF/USA) - Folks, I apologize. We had a power outage from a thunderstorm during PRIME TIME. We'll return next week.

(NWA/SYND.) - [WORLD WIDE]: Chris Cruise debuts as host; Sting d. Julio Barrera; Lex Luger d. Vernon Henderson; Steiners d. Al Green/Mike Awesome; Tom Zenk/Brian Pillman d. New Zealand Militia; Terry Funk d. Paul Drake (Della Street was in Paul's corner). PEDICINO'S NOSE: More on WOMAN. RESTHOLD.

[NWA PRO]: Zenk d. Lee Scott; RETROSPECTIVE: WOMAN saga; Freebirds d. Jerry Price/Greg Evans; Steiners d. Tommy Angel/Rusty Riddle; Ric Flair/Sting d. State Patrol; Skyscrapers d. Gene Ligon/Tony Suber. PEDICINO'S NOSE: Doom, Halloween Havoc preview. BOMB-PLUS.

(WWF/SYND.) - [CHALLENGE]: Sheepwackers d. Boris Zhukov/Dale Wolfe; Barry Widowmaker d. Warren Bianchi; Jim Duggan d. Brooklyn Brawler; Honky Tonk Man d. Hawkins; Ultimate Warrior d. Brian Costello; Jim Neidhart d. Tom Burton; Haku d. Larson. RESTHOLD.

[SUPERSTARS]: Jimmy Snuka d. Stoney Burke; Dino Bravo d. Jim Evans; Tully & Arn d. Bianchi/Tim Horner; Rick Rude d. Bill Woods; Ronnie Garvin d. Bob Green; Curt Hennig d. Paul Roma; From SNME: Hogan-Zeus-DiBiase standoff; Santana-Martel + Survivor teams brawl. BRO. LUV w. Polkadot Ball of Cholesterol. ANGLE: Rude calls woman into ring for kiss & walks away before his "Rude Awakening." RESTHOLD.

(NWA/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Zenk d. Tim Parker; Steiners d. Cuban Assassin/Bob Cook; Muta d. Eddie Gilbert; PUNK'S GRILL: Ole Anderson threatens to eliminate Terry at Thunderdome; WNN: Gordon Solie predicts "discipline," if you please, will determine Luger-Pillman winner. RESTHOLD-PLUS. [WCW]: New Fantastics d. Lee Scott/Agent Steel; Zenk d. Ligon; Norman d. Thad Clark; Skyscrapers d. Rick Cannon/Ricky Nelson; From NWA PRO: Road Warriors-Scrapers standoff; Dynamic Dudes d. Keith Steinborn/Joe Cazana by DQ when Freebirds run in but Midnight Express only casually come in to save; Freebirds d. Tony Suber/Italian Stallion; Mike Rotunda d. Greg Evans; Luger d. Richard Sartin; Steve Williams d. Fred Avery; Pillman d. Riddle; Steiners d. Jerry Price/Tommy Angel; REPLAY: Luger-Pillman brawl of last week; SEGMENT: Cornette interviews WOMAN. ANGLE: Stan Lane says he's had enough of Cornette helping the Dudes & Bobby says Stan's making sense. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(LUCHA LIBRE) - Chacal Rivera/Acero Dorado d. Piloto Suicida/Mercurio; Capitan Oro/Falcon de Oro d. El Salvaje/Craizy; Bobby Bradley d. Carlos Vega; Blue Demon Jr. d. Principe Indu; Super Muneco d. Ricky Boy; Eddie Guerrero/Lazertron (Hector Guerrero) d. Alex Knight/Banzai. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(ANP) - Paul Lee d. American Eagle; 6-MAN: Eagle/Ron Davis/Greg Sawyer d. Lee/Mr. Frankie/Tim Sledge; ANGLE: Honest Carl forced to give up for heel team, carrying full golf bag, so he says he'll only carry 5-iron. TRIPLE BOMB.

(ICW) - Kendall Windham d. Jeff Ladd; Jose Borancano d. Eric Saporace; \$20,000 BATTLE ROYAL: Joe Savoldi wins; RUMBLE SEAT: Kendall blasts S&S Express; ICW TITLE: Tony Atlas vs. Savoldi ends in pullapart. RESTHOLD.

(STAMPEDE) - [2 Wks. Ago]: Skull Mason d. Ken Johnson; BlackHarts d. Steve Gillespie/Jason Anderson; Sumohara d. Dr. Zhivago; \$10,000 CHALLENGE: Bruce Hart/Biff Wellington d. Dr. Holliday/Great Gama on reverse decision. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[Last Week]: Mason d. Gillespie; Goldie Rogers d. Johnson; Wellington d. Anderson; Bruce Hart d. Zhivago; INTL. TAG TITLE: BlackHarts d. Samurai Warriors for belts. DRAW.

(PWF) - From ORLANDO: (Caribbean Title) Ron Slinker d. Tyree Pride for belt when Kendall Windham chairs Tyree (who juices) twice; STUDIO: Pride d. Mike McClaskey; REPLAY: Slinker d. Tyrone Pryor; Wendi Richter d. Penelope Paradise; LADIES PT. OF VIEW: Diane Hamilton says Slinker's not really crazy; FLA. TAG TITLE: Jumbo Baretta/Dennis Knight d. Nasty Boys for belts w. help from Rev. Billy C. Wirtz; Windham d. Robby Roberts. RESTHOLD.

## LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Jim Cornette, WCW: "If Terry Funk grabs that wire (on the Thunderdome cage), you know what he'll be? Electrified Funk." 2. Larry Sharpe, CWA: "Look where he's (Lawler's) standing. There's a wet spot on the floor." 3. WOMAN, WCW, to Cornette: "Beautiful Bobby & Sweet Stan don't hold anything over you, 'cause you're Jazzin' Jimmy." 4. Cornette, WCW: "Kevin Sullivan's not exactly a ladykiller, unless you're talking about his breath." 5. Cornette, WCW: "Kevin Sullivan's not exactly one of the finer things of life." 6. Charlie Platt & Downtown Bruno, CWF: (DB) "I've never made a mistake in my life." (CP) "There was a big mistake made just a little while before you came along." 7. Roddy Piper, WWF: "If it was Rude, he'd have had lips like pedals---bicycle pedals." 8. Ole Anderson, PH, to Terry Funk: "I'm sure you know all about simplemindedness. You're such an example of it." 9. Jim Cornette, PH: "I know karate & Kung Fu & 3 other Japanese words: ka-chair, ka-brick, ka-chain." 10. Skandor Akbar, USWA, on Eric Embry's "blindness": "Come on down, like the game show says...but Eric, you can't find your way down the aisle. You can only smell."

11. Cornette, WCW: "The Oakland 2? Is that anything like the Chicago 7? I didn't know Jerry Rubin was a wrestling fan." 12. Michael Hayes, WCW, on Dudes' TV match: "If you were tuning up for the Indianapolis 500, would you tune up against a bicycle?" 13. Piper, WWF: "Rude, you're gonna make a hurricane look like a summer breeze." 14. Jesse Ventura, WWF: "Garvin could be pumping gas, changing tires, cleaning sewer gutters." 15. Percy Pringle, USWA: "Akbar, you don't know what family is." 16. Hawk, WCW: "We're not gonna kill you, Skyscrapers, 'cause dead men don't feel pain." 17. Lex Luger, WCW: "Brian Pillman reminds me of a little boy playing with a stick in a hornet's nest until it's too late." 18. Platt, CWF: "Bruno, I understand you were once the cleanup guy for the elephant herd in the circus." 19. Platt, CWF, to Bruno: "Wanna burn off some energy, Bruno? There's some traffic up on I-65. Why don't you walk out in it?" 20. Cornette, WCW, to Jim Ross: "Please don't make this sound like Stan and I need a marriage counselor."

21. Jim Davies, Stampede, on Skull Mason: "He has the disposition of an untipped waiter." 22. Hugh Hart, Stampede, to Bruce Hart: "I denounce your fat, out of shape body, you teenybopper in tights." 23. Chris Cruise, WWW: "Steiner's done moves we don't even have names for yet." 24. Kendall Windham, ICW: "Joe Savoldi & Vic Steamboat are little men in a big man's world." 25. Steve Keirn, PWF, on Ron Slinker's snake, Zeus: "I hunt gators. I'm not afraid of snakes." 26. Rev. Billy C. Wirtz, PWF: "A man came up to me and said, 'I feel like my life is like a Veg-O-Matic set on liquefy.'"

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Rick Rude, WWF, refusing to kiss a fan: "Boy, I sure hit the nail on the head when I said, 'CINCINNATI SWEATHOGS'." 2. Gary Hart, WCW, to Funk: "I

don't want you to come back to me and say, 'Gary, why didn't you stop the match?'" 3. Cornette, WCW: "I think everybody knows WHAT WOMAN is." 4. Platt, CWF, to Bruno: "Why don't you just shut up?!" 5. Steve Williams, WCW: "I don't just want Sid Vicious. I want BOTH Skyscrapers!" 6. Bobby Eaton, "I don't know, Jimmy. Stan's starting to make a lot of sense." 7. Bruce Hart, Stampede: "Maybe Jonathan Holiday's down at one of those gay bars discoing."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. WOMAN, WCW, to Cornette: "Do you really think a trip to the zoo and Super Supreme is what I want?" 2. Stan Lane, WCW, to Cornette: "Are there any more of your buddies & pals you want us to come out here and save?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. PIED PIPERS OF DEVIOUS (Akbar on Embry & Percy). 2. LARRY'S TAKE OUT SERVICE (Larry Sharpe, CWA, on Lawler doing stretcher job). 3. OILY ANDERSON (Funk on Ole).

BEST PICTURES - 1. USWA, Adams-Chu'i brawl. 2. TBS, Steiner w. hat on POWER HOUR. 3. TBS, Gary Hart knocking Eddie Gilbert's foot off ropes vs. Muta. 4. WWF, Female fan's expression when Rude insults her.

ARROGANT RING MUSIC AWARD - Curt Hennig, WWF, "Exodus."

DREADED GLITCH AWARDS - 1. TBS, repeating closing moments of Steiners-Assassin/Cook match on POWER HOUR after break. 2. WTXN-TV, Columbus, for airing an unwatchable tape of NWA PRO during its final half-hour.

BLOOPER AWARD - Jim Davies, Stampede, for calling Ken Johnson "Kenny Rogers."

BOO AWARD - PWF, for plugging a Baretta/Knight tag title defense in Orlando against Tim Parker/Frankie Lancaster BEFORE their title win was shown same day on TV.

## TUBE TALK

That BOO AWARD was stretching it because while there was little to celebrate on TV wrestling over the weekend, there were no real atrocities....Wayne Coulter did his own narrative for the Slinker-Pride title bout from Orlando....Marc Laurinidas (The Terminator), brother of Road Warrior Mike/A-nimal, is in the NWA. He'll be on TV in the next 2 weekends, getting involved in an angle with Ranger Ross & Dave Sierra. I don't know what he'll be called....Kendo Nagasaki also in as a "bodyguard" for Muta who "walks in backwards."

We didn't get a Portland report over the weekend but we'll attempt to make up the last 2 weeks in the next issue, which will be an 8-pager....The old UWA ALL-STAR (Tomko) promotion is off Canadian TV. Al Tomko sold the group and the new owners have not been able to negotiate a slot....The NWA/WCW actually advanced a few angles but the show is moving much too slowly for a 2-hour outing. Saturday's effort would have been better with a 60-min. format....Finally, details on our 1989 next week---and let me know: would you like YOU SAID IT! to run twice a month? PSB.



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## PINFALL PROFILE (Continued from Page 2)

vs. Funk has probably gone to the well one too many times, even though they still have the remaining I QUIT match scheduled on the Nov. 15 CLASH IX on TBS. So much of the NWA's eggs are rolling on the gimmick match and I've been told by some NWA insiders they believe this is what may get curiosity buyers to subscribe Saturday night.

Personally, I'll predict a 1.0 buy rate because of too much competition and saturation. Yet, five pay shows are scheduled by TBS for next year. Will this be a chance to go to school on whether that was a wise move?

## RATINGS RAP

### SYNDICATION

Week Ending Oct. 8	Rtg	Stations	Pct. U.S.
WWF	8.3	242	96%
NWA	4.5	160	91%

### CABLE

Week Ending Oct. 16	Rating	Share	Homes
NWA MAIN EVENT (TBS 10/15)	2.6	5.2	1.31 mil.
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 10/15)	2.4	6.3	1.16 mil.
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 10/16)	2.4	3.6	1.15 mil.
NWA W. CHAMP. (TBS 10/14)	2.2	4.8	1.11 mil.
NWA POWER HOUR (TBS 10/13)	2.1	3.8	1.06 mil.
NWA GRTST HITS (TBS 10/14)	1.8	4.6	909,000
NWA POWER (R) (TBS 10/14)	0.5	4.5	252,500

(ANALYSIS: The NWA has taken a monumental drop in syndication over recent weeks and one has to ask if it is not because of the myriad of uninteresting TV shows. Even in the Atlanta market, numbers for NWA PRO are falling. On cable, MAIN EVENT was bolstered by a 3.1/5.9 share for the Lex Luger-Steve Williams match. But an interesting note: WCW peaked at a 2.5/5.7 at 6:15 and sharply dropped to a 1.7/3.8 at 7:45, so the audience is abandoning the mostly squash broadcast. POWER HOUR continues to grow, drawing over a million for the third time in a month. The WWF shows appear to be flattening out at 2.4.)

## 826-RING

A reminder: effective Tuesday, Oct. 22, the new phone number for MATWATCH will be 826-RING.

## I REMEMBER: El Gran Lothario

We didn't hear him called Jose until he had been in town nearly three months. But it didn't matter. This former boxer exploded onto the Florida scene in the early part of 1966 and went all the way to a share of the NWA world tag team championship with Wahoo McDaniel, he of the American Football League during the fall.

Gordon Solie could roll the name "El Gran Lothario" like a native Latin American can roll the letter "r." His biggest move was called the Avalanche, a type of flying leg dive where he would bring his opponent's leg almost over the hapless foe's head and crash back down on it, finishing up with a half Boston crab in the days when wrestlers still conceded.

Lothario's first major assignment was to eliminate the Missouri Mauler, which he almost did on a classic Saturday. The ubiquitous Sputnik Monroe was at the announcer's table with Solie, spouting off about every babyface in the business and complaining about not having enough time to talk on television. Finally, in one of his trademark zingers, Solie told Monroe, "I don't know that you're not just a little bit afraid of some of these men, you spend so much time talking about them!" "AFRAID!," shouted Sputnik, who promptly climbed into the ring and was creamed by five straight shoulder smashes from Jose. The Mauler, scheduled to take on Lothario, then jumped El Gran with his "fists-and-feet" fury but Lothario, hot with Florida's Latin population, showed his brawling and boxing skills.

Within 90 seconds, the Mauler was spewing forth blood and in his "crimson mask" line of the day, Gordon proclaimed, "Oooooo....THE MISSOURI MAULER....CUT WIDE OPEN...CUT WIDE OPEN is THE MAULER!" Larry Hamilton rolled out of the ring and within a month, he was gone.

Probably the greatest match I ever saw Lothario have was against NWA champion Gene Kiniski at the first live card I ever attended in 1966. Lothario overwhelmed Kiniski with speed to win the first fall and pop the 9,000-plus at the Jacksonville Coliseum. Kiniski rallied with his trademark backbreaker to even the match and then kicked Lothario into the turnbuckle as Jose went for The Avalanche in fall 3, stunning him for the pinfall. But it was Lothario who had heat at the end as he chased Kiniski to the dressing room.

Lothario never capitalized on that following in the '70s but he still holds an exciting page in my memory book.

## MATWATCH SUBSCRIPTIONS

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**COMINGS & GOINGS**

**QUAKE SHAKES:** In case you haven't been able to contact Dave Meltzer, he's fine but he did get shaken a bit by the Great Quake. While I was talking with him Thursday night, an aftershock which would rate about a 5 shook. Dave says if they ever have an 8, it's curtains.

**MORE QUAKES:** Titan canceled its San Francisco show over the weekend, which had an \$80,000 advance. But it went into L.A. at the Sports Arena, right next door to the Rolling Stones at The Forum.

**CLOSE CALL:** You don't know how close the NWA came to losing its HAVOC show on PPV. I've talked with some cable operators who say there was great anger within their ranks at the preview tape which prominently displayed the plastic bag angle and the PARENTAL DISCRETION advisory. TBS had to send a letter of apology to Request TV & Viewer's Choice and agree to no gratuitous violence on this show. I'm in the cable operators' corner on the bag but considering the movies they show, I find their complaints over discretion crocodile tears.

**THE GATE:** I'm told as of last Friday, 6,500 seats had been sold for HAVOC. The place will seat about 9,000 after seats are removed to handle the big cage and also to block off a spot for ring entrances.

**SHARPELY DENNIS:** Dennis Coraluzzo ran a show in the National Guard Armory at Woodbury NJ Saturday night with Joe Daniels vs. Pat O'Brien, Larry Sharpe vs. Iron Mike Sharpe (a rather cutting match) and Kimala vs. Jules Strongbow. Dennis has a South Philly show Nov. 18 and a Dec. 16 card in Camden NJ with Derrick Dukes, Sharpe and Strongbow on the bill.

**TOO MUCH:** Speaking of too much of a good thing, can anyone explain why the otherwise excellent Luger-Steve Williams match ran Saturday as a GREATEST HITS two weeks ago BEFORE its scheduled first run on MAIN EVENT???

**FROM WHERE?:** Cactus Jack Manson is getting a big pop from CWF crowds, what crowds there are...but is being billed as from Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

**ON WITH CODY:** Chris Cruise guested with Cody Boyns on WALE's WRESTLING RAP in Providence last Tuesday. Chris made a promising debut on WORLD WIDE Saturday.

**ANGRY RHODIES:** Providence fans were none too happy with the finish of the annual KING OF THE RING tourney on

Oct. 14. Tito Santana won the final vs. Rick Martel but Providence fans had a big buildup for Barry Windham and he was considered a shoo-in. The WWF didn't tell folks Mr. Widowmaker had been pulled for the European tour.

**VILLAGE VOICE:** Story in the latest VILLAGE VOICE on how Vince McMahon was forced into the ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT interview over the summer in the story contrasting the WWF & NWA. The VOICE called Vince "The Barnum of Bounce."

**FANTASIES:** A new fantasy wrestling league is gearing up. It's called the IWA: Imaginary Wrestling Association. There is a fee. For info, write IWA, Box 5275, Willowick OH 44095. I'm glad to plug these as long as no gambling is involved, a la some fantasy football leagues.

**WHO SURVIVES?:** I don't know who will ultimately survive the independent wars in Atlanta but odds are that Jerry Blackwell will have to concede if Larry Oldag & Jim Powell's group have the time on WVEU. A sad, yet ironic note is that Blackwell learned he was losing his TV last Monday after having surgery to remove a bone from a big toe after a bout with gout.

**FLORIDA VISIONS:** I admire the vision of the PWF officials in Florida. But I'm disappointed in their plugging people openly who aren't guaranteed to come in that promotion. I'll have more on that next week.

**INTERESTING:** Funny thing but on this Dec. 27 NO HOLDS BARRED PPV showing, most cable operators have not been informed of a Hogan-Zeus match to follow.

**STOCK LINES:** PWF chief owner Wayne Coulter told the TAMPA TRIBUNE of his stock offering: "They (WWF and NWA) have the high priced talent. To compete, we have to sign them and get TV time. This could be a real pump in the arm for us." But I can't help but remember GLOBAL.

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